



PortSTEP

Port Security Training Exercise Program

Vision

To strengthen the Nation's ability to prevent, respond to, and recover from a transportation security incident in a port and maritime environment.

Mission

To develop and implement a port security intermodal transportation exercise program for use by the U. S. port and maritime community that aligns with our Nation's infrastructure protection policies and programs. By reaching out to port authorities, industry associations, port service providers, state homeland security directors, emergency management, law enforcement, and transportation partners, we will engage all modes of the transportation security community in preparing for and responding to a port security incident. Our innovative and comprehensive system of tools and services will provide a foundation that will allow stakeholders to strengthen and continuously improve their port's security posture while protecting the movement of people and commerce.

Program Goals

- Promote stakeholder involvement and awareness through an outreach program
- Encourage stakeholder participation in program development
- Ensure program alignment with national standards and requirements
- Conduct exercises relevant to stakeholder challenges and risks
- Refine the program through evaluation and continuous improvement

Program Objectives

- Fulfill Maritime Transportation Security Act of 2002 (MTSA) annual exercise requirements for Area Maritime Security (AMS) Plans and AMS Committees
- Identify efficiencies and share port security lessons learned and best practices throughout the maritime community
- Share port security exercise design, conduct, and evaluation techniques and processes

Program Scope

- Various types of exercises will be offered depending on the port complexity and progress in the exercise progression cycle
- Vendors will offer Basic Tabletop Exercises (TTXs), Advanced Tabletop Exercises (ATTXs), and Functional Exercises (FEs)

Program Timeline

Exercise activities will be conducted between August 2005 and October 2007 for 40 AMS Committees, their members, and stakeholders within the associated ports.



Program Support and Products

In cooperation with the appropriate stakeholders from local ports and their respective maritime communities, the program will provide the technical resources needed to perform exercises at 40 U.S. ports. The program will deliver the following documentation and services in support of exercise execution:

- *Facilitation* of all planning meetings and exercise activities;
- *Scenarios* that will drive exercise discussion;
- *Exercise Plans* (EXPLANS) that will address exercise scope and objectives, and assign tasks and responsibilities;
- *Situation Manuals* (SITMANs) that will contain either a chronologically sequenced scenario or a partially pre-scripted narrative to be driven by player actions during the exercise;
- *Controller and Evaluator Handbooks* (C/E Handbooks) that describe the roles and responsibilities of exercise controllers and evaluators;
- *Exercise Evaluation Guides* (EEGs) that will provide evaluators a means to record their observations, and questions to consider after the exercise;
- *Master Scenario Events Lists* (MSELs) that will contain a chronological listing of the events;
- *Models and Simulations* that will provide players with instant feedback on the outcomes of their choices and the underlying reasons for those results;
- *Media / Public Information Kits* that will notify local media prior to the exercise; and
- *Logistics Plans* that will allow for a smooth, seamless exercise

Stakeholder Role

While the program will undertake the bulk of responsibilities for exercise preparation and execution, port-specific support will be needed in key areas. This support will include:

- Providing a list of trusted agents with contact information (e-mail and mailing addresses) to assist in determining exercise objectives, jurisdictional needs, and evaluation documentation; and
- Participation of all appropriate port stakeholders in the design and execution of PortSTEP exercises

Program Team

Federal Government: DHS: Transportation Security Administration (TSA- Contracting Agency), U.S. Coast Guard (USCG), and the Preparedness Directorate Office of Grant's and Training as well as US DOT - Office of Emergency Transportation (OET)

Contractors: Applied Science Associates, Inc. (ASA), Booz Allen Hamilton (BAH), Community Research Associates, Inc. (CRA) and UNITECH.

This fact sheet provides a brief PortSTEP overview. Additional fact sheets may be produced and distributed in the future. For addition information about the program, please contact:

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